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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 17, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 11 totaled an estimated 17.2 billion ton-miles, 0.9 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first two weeks of 1986 was an estimated 30.1 billion ton-miles, up 3.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 11 totaled 372,471, up 0.3 percent from last year, and 37.1 percent above the preceding holiday week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 2.0 percent in the East and 1.0 percent in the West, but down 2.4 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 15 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, coal loadings were up 7,697 cars (7.2 percent) and metallic ores showed a gain of 1,134 cars (12.3 percent). Twenty of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding holiday week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 4 totaled 66,052 trailers and/or containers, 20.9 percent above last year.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 01/11/86:

	Loadings in Week ended Jan. 11, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,944	D	1,485	5.2	I	6,161	29.6
Other farm products	4,581	D	442	8.8	I	1,403	44.1
Metallic ores	10,321	I	1,134	12.3	I	3,431	49.8
Coal	114,997	I	7,697	7.2	I	34,754	43.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,315	D	512	5.2	I	1,854	24.8
Nonmetallic minerals	8,103	D	1,620	16.7	I	783	10.7
Grain mill products	10,525	D	342	3.1	I	2,029	23.9
Food and kindred products	10,738	D	500	4.4	I	3,287	44.1
Primary forest products	11,820	D	2,218	15.8	I	2,824	31.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,611	D	159	2.3	I	1,975	42.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,029	D	1,652	11.3	I	774	6.3
Chemicals and allied products	24,061	D	937	3.7	I	3,035	14.4
Petroleum products	5,236	I	786	17.7	I	992	23.4
Stone, clay and glass products	9,293	D	353	3.7	I	1,915	26.0
Coke	4,693	I	115	2.5	D	2	0.0
Metals and products	8,440	I	239	2.9	I	1,099	15.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,770	D	1,340	5.8	I	14,441	197.0
Waste and scrap materials	8,392	D	547	6.1	I	3,024	56.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	5,143	D	895	14.8	I	1,171	29.5
All other carloads	58,342	I	4,350	8.1	I	15,858	37.3
LCL traffic	117	D	27	18.8	I	50	74.6
Total Cars Loaded	372,471	I	1,292	0.3	I	100,858	37.1
Corresponding week of 1985	371,179						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (2 weeks)	644,084	633,605	I 1.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 4	12.9	12.1	I 6.5
Week ended January 11	17.2	17.1	I 0.9
2 weeks cumulative	30.1	29.2	I 3.2

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